

IN THE CLAIMS

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C4 4(AMENDED). The automatic scan test enable assertion system of Claim 1 in which said staging component further comprises:

a first stage scan enabling component coupled to said scan test enable trigger sensing component, said first stage scan enabling component adapted to track logical values of the trigger signal from a first stage;

a1 a second stage scan enabling component coupled to said scan test enable trigger sensing component, said second stage scan enabling component adapted to track logical values of the trigger signal from a second stage;

a third stage scan enabling component coupled to said scan test enable trigger sensing component, said third stage scan enabling component adapted to maintain an active scan enable signal status until a stage progression signal permits a contrary indication to be received by said third stage scan enabling component.

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B3 15(AMENDED) An automatic scan test enable signal assertion method comprising the steps of:

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- a) transitioning logical values of a trigger signal;
  - b) asserting a scan test enable signal based upon logical values in said trigger signal;
  - c) suspending transitions in a stage progression signal;
  - d) deasserting said scan test enable signal if a transition occurs in said stage progression signal; and
  - e) utilizing a normal functional pin to communicate said trigger signal and said stage progression signal.